

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for hanging a medical device, said apparatus comprising:

a shaft;

a mounting portion coupled to an end portion of said shaft and configured for mounting said apparatus for movement with respect to the medical device ~~and between a retracted position and a deployed position,~~ wherein said mounting portion extends along a longitudinal axis and said a longitudinal axis of said mounting portion is oriented perpendicular to an axis of said shaft, and wherein said mounting portion defines at least one circumferential recess to facilitate the movement of said apparatus with respect to the medical device; and

a hook portion positioned at an opposite end portion of said shaft and configured for hanging said apparatus from a support when said apparatus is in said deployed position, ~~and wherein said hook portion is positionable in a plane of an parallel to the longitudinal axis~~ of said mounting portion;

wherein said shaft is configured to permit rotation of said hook portion with respect to said mounting portion, thereby facilitating orientation of said hook portion with respect to the support.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of said shaft, said mounting portion, and said hook portion is molded.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said shaft is generally cylindrical in shape.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said shaft has a cross-sectional area smaller than that of said hook portion.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said shaft is flexible.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said shaft is sized to twist sufficiently for rotation of said hook portion between said plane of said axis of said mounting portion and a plane substantially perpendicular to said axis of said mounting portion.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the medical device is a fluid recovery system.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the medical device is a thoracic cavity drainage system.
11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said mounting portion is spaced from an end portion of said shaft.

13. (Currently Amended) An assembly configured to be hung from a support, said assembly comprising:

a medical device; and

at least one hanger comprising

an elongated shaft;

a mounting portion coupled to an end portion of said elongated shaft and coupled for pivotal movement with respect to said medical device about a longitudinal axis of said mounting portion; and

a hook portion positioned at an opposite end portion of said elongated shaft and configured for hanging from the support;

wherein said elongated shaft of said hanger is configured to permit rotation of said hook portion with respect to said mounting portion of said hanger about a longitudinal axis of the elongated shaft, thereby facilitating orientation of said hook portion with respect to the support, and

wherein a slot is defined by said medical device to accommodate at least a portion of said hook portion when said hanger is in a retracted position.

14. (Original) The assembly of claim 13 further comprising a handle coupled to said medical device.

15. (Original) The assembly of claim 14, wherein said mounting portion pivots with respect to said handle, thereby facilitating deployment or retraction of said hanger with respect to said handle.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim ~~16~~13, wherein said hanger is stowed in said retracted position, thereby preventing unintentional hooking of said hook portion.

18. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein said assembly further comprises a plurality of hangers.

19. (Currently Amended) An assembly configured to be hung from a support, said assembly comprising:

a medical device; and

a plurality of hangers, each comprising

a shaft;

a mounting portion coupled to an end portion of said shaft and coupled for pivotal movement with respect to said medical device;

a hook portion positioned at an opposite end portion of said shaft and configured for hanging from the support;

wherein said shaft of each hanger is configured to permit rotation of said hook portion with respect to said mounting portion, thereby facilitating orientation of said hook portion of each hanger with respect to the support for positioning the medical device; and

wherein said hangers are pivotable with respect to said medical device, thereby facilitating deployment of said hangers with respect to said medical device to an extended position and a surface of the medical device limits movement of said hook portions of said hangers in a retracted position of the hangers; and

wherein said hangers are positioned adjacent one another in said extended position for hanging from a substantially common point on said support.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The assembly of claim 19, further comprising a handle coupled to said medical device.

22. (Original) The assembly of claim 21, wherein said mounting portion pivots with respect to said handle.

23. (Currently Amended) An assembly configured to be hung from a support, said assembly comprising:

a medical device;

a handle coupled to said medical device and configured for grasping said medical device; and

at least one hanger comprising

a flexible shaft;

a mounting portion having a longitudinal axis, said mounting portion being coupled to an end portion of said flexible shaft and coupled to said handle for pivotal movement only about said longitudinal axis; and

a hook portion positioned at an opposite end portion of said flexible shaft and configured for hanging from the support;

wherein said hanger is pivotable with respect to said handle, thereby facilitating deployment and retraction of said hanger with respect to said handle,

wherein said flexible shaft is configured to twist sufficiently to permit rotation of said hook portion with respect to said mounting portion about a longitudinal axis of said flexible shaft, thereby facilitating orientation of said hook portion of said hanger with respect to the support for positioning the medical device.

24. (Withdrawn) In an assembly of a medical device and a plurality of hangers, a method of hanging the medical device to a support, said method comprising the steps of:

rotating at least a portion of a shaft of each hanger with respect to a mounting portion of each hanger, thereby orienting a hook portion of each hanger with respect to the support;

positioning the hook portions of the hangers adjacent one another; and

engaging the hook portion of each hanger to a substantially common point on the support, thereby hanging the medical device.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 further comprising the step of pivoting the mounting portion of each hanger with respect to the medical device, thereby facilitating deployment and retraction of each hanger with respect to the medical device.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein said rotating step comprises twisting the shaft of each hanger.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein said rotating step comprises rotating the shaft of each hanger sufficiently to move the hook portion between a plane substantially perpendicular to an axis of the mounting portion and a plane substantially parallel to the axis of the mounting portion.

28. (Withdrawn) In an assembly of a medical device and a plurality of hangers, a method of hanging the medical device to a support, said method comprising the steps of:

pivoting a mounting portion of each hanger with respect to the medical device, thereby deploying a hook portion of each hanger with respect to the medical device;

positioning the hook portions of the hangers adjacent one another; and

engaging the hook portion of each hanger to a substantially common point on the support, thereby hanging the medical device.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, said engaging step comprising engaging the hook portions of the hangers to a common aperture, thereby hanging the medical device.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of rotating at least a portion of the shaft of each hanger with respect to the mounting portion of each hanger, thereby orienting the hook portion of each hanger with respect to the support.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28 wherein said pivoting step comprises pivoting the mounting portion of each hanger with respect to a handle of the medical device.

32. (Previously Presented) An assembly configured to be hung from a support, said assembly comprising:

a medical device;

a handle coupled to said medical device and configured for grasping said medical device, said handle defining at least one aperture; and

at least one hanger comprising

a shaft;

a mounting portion coupled to an end portion of said shaft and coupled to said handle; and

a hook portion positioned at an opposite end portion of said shaft and configured for hanging from the support;

wherein said hanger is pivotable with respect to said handle, thereby facilitating deployment and retraction of said hanger with respect to said handle; and

wherein at least a portion of said hook portion of said hanger extends into said aperture in said handle when said hanger is in a retracted position.